

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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FOLLOWING TEL CALCUTTA 3035 DTD 07 DEC 76 SENT ACTION NEW DELHI
BEING REPEATED TO YOU. QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CALCUTTA 3035

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJ: CPI EDITORIAL ATTACKING SANJAY GANDHI

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF EDITORIAL IN CALCUTTA'S
CPI DAILY DALANTAR DECEMBER 7, HEADED "ON SANJAY
GANDHI":

2. BEGIN QUOTE - SANJAY GANDHI IS REPORTED TO HAVE
WARNED THE IDEALISTS ABOUT GETTING TOO ARTICULATE
AGAINST COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM AT A MEETING AT
SHAHARANPORE. THESE PEOPLE OPPOSED TO IMPERIALISM
AND COLONIALISM SHOULD NOT HAVE ANY PLACE IN THE
CONGRESS PARTY. IT IS THEIR MATTER TO DECIDE WHO
SHOULD BELONG TO THE CONGRESS.

BUT WHY THIS OUTBURST OF TEMPER BY SANJAY AGAINST
THE ANTI-IMPERIALISTS AND ANTI-COLONIALISTS? INDIA
ATTAINED INDEPENDENCE FIGHTING IMPERIALISM AND COLON-
IALISM, AND HER 200 YEARS OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST TRADI-
TION WAS BUILT UPON THE SACRIFICE AND BLOOD OF
COUNTLESS NUMBERS OF MARTYRS. THE HISTORY OF THE
INDIAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT IS THE HISTORY OF
STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND COLONIALISM. EVEN
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AFTER INDEPENDENCE, THE SOVEREIGNTY OF INDIA WAS

THREATENED ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, ITS DEMOCRACY ENDANGERED BY THE CONSPIRACIES OF COLONIALISTS. ON THIS BASIS OF ANTI-IMPERIALISM, INDIA HAS ACHIEVED SOLIDARITY WITH THE THIRD WORLD AND THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. THE BEDROCK OF INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY IS OPPOSITION TO COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM.

SANJAY IS NOT ONLY RIDICULING THE ANTI-IMPERIALISTS AND ANTI-COLONIALISTS, HE IS ALSO CASTING REFLECTION ON THE TRADITION OF THE INDIAN STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE. NO DOUBT, SUCH COMMENTS CANNOT BUT PLEASE THE IMPERIALISTS, PARTICULARLY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF US IMPERIALIST AND THEIR SUPPORTERS IN THE COUNTRY.

SANJAY ALSO SAID THE CONGRESS FOLLOWED THE IDEALS OF GANDHI. ONE ELEMENT OF GANDHI'S IDEALS WAS TO HELP THE POOR AND REMOVE POVERTY. BUT HE FORGOT THE MAIN TASK OF GANDHI WAS TO LIBERATE INDIA FROM THE SHACKLES OF IMPERIALISM. ONE WOULD PAY ONLY LIP SERVICE TO GANDHISM IF IMPERIALISM AND COLONIALISM WERE TO BE DELINKED FROM WHAT HE STOOD FOR. THIS EXACTLY IS WHAT'S CALLED DISTORTION OF GANDHISM IDEALS. NO MATTER HOW MANY SPEECHES SANJAY AMKES, HE COULD NEVER TARNISH THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST TRADITION OF INDIA, NEVER*

SAN JAY GANDHI IS BELIEVED TO BE A MAN OF ACTION. HE DOES NOT LIKE IDEOLOGY OR POLEMICS. BUT THERE IS A THEORY AND IDEOLOGY AS TO HOW POVERTY SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM THE COUNTRY. AND THAT IS SOCIALISM. PEOPLE WHO ARE SO FOND OF IMPERIALISM AND COLONIALISM CANNOT REALLY BE GENUINE BELIEVERS IN SOCIALISM, NOT TO TALK ABOUT REMOVAL OF POVERTY. DESPITE HIS ANTIPATHY TOWARD SOCIALISM, THAT WORD HAS BEEN INCORPORATED IN THE PREFACE TO OUR CONSTITUTION FOLLOWING ITS AMENDMENT. AND THIS NOW CAN NOT BE REJECTED WHETHER HE LIKES IT OR NOT. OF COURSE, HE AND HIS FOLLOWERS WOULD HAVE BEEN HAPPIER IF THE SLOGAN FOR THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WAS ADOPTED. BUT THE PARLIAMENT, EXERCIZING ITS DEMOCRATIC RIGHT, HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REJECTED THAT AND HAS BUILT THE PRACTICAL BASE FOR THE EXPANSION OF DEMOCRACY BY AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION.

WE HOPE SANJAY GANDHI WOULD NOT TARNISH THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST AND ANTI-COLONIAL HERITAGE OF INDIAM WOULD NOT HIS COMMENTS PROVOKE AND EXTREME REACTION AMONG THOSE COUNTLESS NUMBER OF PATRIOTS AND PRO-

GRESSIVE CONGRESSMEN WHO ARE CARRYING ON THE
TRADITION OF THE PROLONGED STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM
AND OF THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE THAT WERE LED
BY THE CONGRESS? END QUOTE.
KORN

UNQUOTE
SCHNEIDER

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